

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Joseph P. Rynd, *et al.*
Application No.: 10/722,929
Filing Date: November 26, 2003
Confirmation No.: 1182
Group Art Unit: 1791
Examiner: Jeffrey Wollschlager
Title: Method Of Forming Thermoplastic Foams Using Nano-
Particles To Control Cell Morphology

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131

I, Rodger Lightle, hereby declare that:

1. I am currently an employee of Owens Corning and have been employed by Owens Corning since 1994. I currently hold the job title Engineer, Plant and Licensee Support. I have reviewed the above-identified patent application and WO 2001/39954 to Grinshpun, *et al.* and understand that the claims of the application have been rejected with WO 2001/39954 to Grinshpun, *et al.* being cited as the primary reference.

2. During my employment at Owens Corning, I have had the chance to work with various extruders and dies used in the manufacture of foams. I am familiar with the formation of foam boards using the disclosed extrusion process. I am also familiar with the LMP Co-rotating Twin Screw Extruder with Static Cooler using a Flat face shaper die/shaper plate and the Leistritz MIC 27 GL/400 Co-rotating Twin Screw Extruder using a 20X2 mm Flat Slot Die disclosed in Table 1 on page 10 of the above-identified application. I have